

NEVADA CLIMATE SUMMARY

and Archives ①

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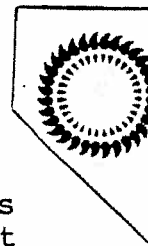
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SYNOPSIS

August was the third cooler than normal month in a row over the Silver State, making this the coolest summer in ten years in many localities, and even longer in the North East. It was also another drier than normal month, being very similar to July 1993 with wet conditions in the extreme north and generally dry weather elsewhere.

For the first time in 51 years (since 1942) there was no measurable precipitation in July and August in Reno. Only .60" normally falls during this two month period. Even though this is not much of the 7.53" annual average, it is obviously rare to have no rain during these summer months. Previously in this century, only July-August of 1926 and 1918 have been dry.

TEMPERATURE

Average monthly temperatures ranged from 3 to 7 degrees below normal in the extreme north to near normal in the Far West and Extreme South. The remainder of the State averaged from 1 to 2 degrees below normal.

No new records for heat were observed this month as the State August record high of 121 degrees, set at Laughlin last year, withstood the challenge of 116 degrees at Amargosa Valley on the 3rd. Laughlin reached 115 degrees, and North Las Vegas FD, Overton Beach, and Cottonwood Cove, all had 114 degrees. On the cool side, the temperature at Charleston fell to 14 degrees on the 25th and the 29th. This was near the Nevada State record low for August (10 degrees) set at this location and San Jacinto just one year ago. This August San Jacinto had only 22 degrees.

PRECIPITATION

While most locations in the far north continued the wet summer conditions started in June, the remainder of Nevada remained relatively dry. The exceptions to this were in some portions of the Extreme South, where about twice the normal August precipitation occurred, and in East Central Nevada.

The wettest location in the State was Kyle Canyon with 2.82", and 2.00" in just one hour on the 5th! This 7500 foot location on 12,000 foot Mt Charleston near Las Vegas is known for occasional heavy summer rain. At the opposite end of the State on the Oregon border, Denio had 2.43", about four and a half times normal for August, while Searchlight in the Extreme South had 2.34" (twice normal), and 1.06" on the 4th. Lee Canyon, at 8500 feet, also on Mt. Charleston had 1.90, with Vya, in the extreme northwest having 1.75".

Many locations in Nevada had no measurable precipitation this month.

SUNSHINE, WIND & EVAPORATION

Sunshine was above normal in all but the extreme north. For example, Reno had 92% of the normal sun hours, Las Vegas 91% and Ely 87%. At Reno it has been one of the sunniest summers of record.

Monthly wind averages were near normal Statewide as no high winds were reported.

Evaporation was also near normal this month, with 14.52" at Pahrump, 12.82" at Caliente, 11.93" at Pahrnanagat NWR, and 10.60" at Fallon. Some other pan evaporation readings were 9.78" at Ruby Lake, 9.64" at Reno UNR, 9.52" at Minden, 9.44" at Diamond Valley, 9.28" at the Desert Valley Sleeper Mine Pond, and 8.28" at Gund Ranch, south of Beowawe.

NOTE: What are the record high and low temperatures for September?

HIGH 118 degrees in Riverville in 1888 (site is now under Lake Mead).

LOW 0 degrees in Carlin in 1895.

NEXT MONTH - A summary of the 1992-93 Water Year (Oct. 1, 1992-Sept. 30, 1993).

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